

me in leading this body in acknowledgement of the extraordinary contributions of NWS Earle. The station is a valued component of the State of New Jersey, and I am honored to recognize them today.

**HONORING THE DISTINGUISHED
SERVICE OF MARVIN MEYERS**

HON. JIM COSTA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 17, 2010

Mr. COSTA. Madam Speaker, I rise today before my esteemed colleagues to recognize and honor the distinguished service of an exceptional man. The contributions of this man to the California agriculture industry and our water resources epitomize the spirit of industriousness and persistence found in the agricultural communities across our country. I would like to recognize Mr. Marvin A. Meyers on being named the recipient of the "2010 Agriculturist of the Year" award by the Greater Fresno Area Chamber of Commerce.

A leader in the development of private water banking, Meyers, himself, farms on the Westside of Fresno County in Mendota. Meyers, who cares for 3,500 acres of almonds in the Firebaugh area, admits his impatience over finding a solution to water shortages drove him to begin developing a water bank. After years of preliminary work, including pilot projects and working with the U.S. Bureau of Reclamation and other agencies, Meyers received federal approval in 2002 to begin operating the bank. Meyers pumps water into the underground bank during wet years and pumps water out during dry years to help make water available when farmers need it most. The bank became invaluable last year after three consecutive dry years and regulatory decisions limited the availability of federal water to our Valley. Meyers' hard work and innovation has translated into the success of his operation and the continuation of a family farm. The Agriculturist of the Year award is given each year to an individual who exemplifies leadership and integrity and whose achievements have significantly affected the community. The Greater Fresno Area Chamber of Commerce has made a wise choice in their selection of Meyers.

Meyers' actions demonstrate his dedication to his community. He is a visionary, a person who epitomizes altruism and believes in giving back to his community. Recently, I had the pleasure of visiting with Marvin and touring his water bank and wildlife project near the outskirts of Mendota, California. The impressive project included five different holding pools all conveyed via gravity and an installation of solar panels that was being erected as we toured that day. Through his water bank and wildlife refuge projects, Meyers educates groups of local students from kindergarten to high school on the importance of water education and wildlife restoration. Going beyond the call, Meyers offers assistance in transportation costs for school buses to travel to and from his site, allowing many school districts and students affected by the recession the opportunity to learn outside the classroom about issues affecting our Valley.

Marvin Meyers is truly a remarkable man—always persistent, always engaged. Marvin is

the kind of advocate that the agriculture industry needs on its side. I have come to know this man well since my days in the California State Legislature, and know firsthand that this award, though meritorious, is only a small part of the recognition Marvin deserves for his many accomplishments. I offer my congratulations to Marvin Meyers today on receiving this distinguished honor and commend him before my colleagues for his contributions to the agriculture industry of California and to our Nation.

**HONORING BROCK REYNOLDS
WENZEL**

HON. SAM GRAVES

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 17, 2010

Mr. GRAVES of Missouri. Madam Speaker, I proudly pause to recognize Brock Reynolds Wenzel. Brock is a very special young man who has exemplified the finest qualities of citizenship and leadership by taking an active part in the Boy Scouts of America, Troop 714, and earning the most prestigious award of Eagle Scout.

Brock has been very active with his troop, participating in many scout activities. Over the many years Brock has been involved with scouting, he has not only earned numerous merit badges, but also the respect of his family, peers, and community. Most notably, Brock has shown an incredible determination by earning his Eagle Scout while only 12 years old. Brock has also contributed to his community through his Eagle Scout project. Brock tore out the old handicap-accessible ramp at the American Legion Hall in Edgerton, Missouri and constructed a new ramp with a lower slope.

Madam Speaker, I proudly ask you to join me in commending Brock Reynolds Wenzel for his accomplishments with the Boy Scouts of America and for his efforts put forth in achieving the highest distinction of Eagle Scout.

**HONORING PASTOR JOY L. THORNTON
ON HIS 11TH ANNIVERSARY**

HON. ANDRÉ CARSON

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 17, 2010

Mr. CARSON of Indiana. Madam Speaker: Whereas, Joy L. Thornton has faithfully served as Pastor for the Greater St. Mark Missionary Baptist Church in Indianapolis, Indiana since October 3, 1999;

Whereas, Joy L. Thornton dedicated his life to serving others after earning his degree from Gammon Theological Seminary in Atlanta, Georgia;

Whereas, Pastor Thornton is celebrating his 11th anniversary of leading the congregation at the Greater St. Mark Missionary Baptist Church as it strives to be an example of faith and respect;

Therefore, I join with the members of the Greater St. Mark Missionary Baptist Church and the Indianapolis community in honoring Pastor Joy Thornton for these past 11 years of exemplary service as a teacher and a leader of his congregation.

IS MOROCCO WHAT IT CLAIMS TO
BE?

HON. FRANK R. WOLF

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 17, 2010

Mr. WOLF. Madam Speaker, I submit for the RECORD an October 31 Reuters article that describes a recent protest that occurred in Morocco.

The story opens with the following description: "About 900 Moroccan rights activists took to the streets in Rabat on Sunday in a rare protest against what they call widespread rights abuses by the authorities, including illegal detention and torture."

The government of Morocco has long sought to cultivate its image, employing high-powered U.S. lobbyists, as a beacon of tolerance in the Muslim world. This human rights protest is further evidence that Morocco isn't all that it claims to be.

Earlier this year the Moroccan government deported, without due process, dozens of U.S. citizens and foreign nationals, many of whom were engaged in vital humanitarian work—for allegedly proselytizing.

If the government of Morocco hopes to maintain its image, it is going to take more than some well-positioned lobbyists.

**MOROCCANS STAGE RARE HUMAN RIGHTS
PROTEST**

RABAT (Reuters)—About 900 Moroccan rights activists took to the streets in Rabat on Sunday in a rare protest against what they called widespread rights abuses by the authorities, including illegal detention and torture.

Protesters chanted: "Shut down illegal detention centres now!" and "Where is the respect for rights and truth?"

Officials were not immediately available to comment on the protest but the government has repeatedly said that its commitment to improve and protect human rights is irreversible.

Morocco won international praise for an improvement in its human rights record since reformist monarch Mohamed VI took over in 1999 from his father Hassan during whose rule hundreds of people were tortured and killed at the hands of the government.

But local human rights groups at home and abroad argue that the country's rights record has deteriorated since 2003 when it mounted a crackdown against militants linked to al Qaeda.

"The reality of human rights conditions totally belies the government's claim of improvement. Illegal detention, torture and crackdowns on press freedom are pervasive now," said Abdeslam Abdelilah, Vice-President of the independent Moroccan Human Rights Association (AMDH).

Independent journalists and security officials at the scene estimated the number of demonstrators at around 900. Security forces have in the past broken up similar protests but they did not interfere in Sunday's demonstration.

HONORING VIRGIL BRANTLEY

HON. STEVE AUSTRIA

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 17, 2010

Mr. AUSTRIA. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize Mr. Virgil Brantley for his lifetime